

# Unconfirmed

## CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 8<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

PRESENT: Mrs R Jess (Chairman) Mr D Broad, Mr M Fulford, Mr C Poulton, Mr I Morgan, Mr I Robertson & Mrs E Broad (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr A Bell

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were agreed and signed as a true record.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: The Chairman reminded Councillors of the need to declare interests as necessary.

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: Mr Harrison reported that he had been unable to print off the agenda for the meeting from the website. Mr Robertson would look into this. Councillor Hodgkinson stated that he was unable to stay at the meeting for more than half an hour as he had another meeting to attend. He reported on the proposed 3.99% increase in the County Council portion of the Council tax which included a cut in the highway budget to which he was opposed. He also updated the Council on the latest situation with the water situation on Tuns Hill. It was reported that Tuns Hill was closed again today.

It was agreed to bring the following items forward on the agenda.

Protecting verges around The Manor: Mr Hamilton had emailed with some photographs of parking around the Manor on Boxing Day. He was concerned that this type of parking held a risk of damage to walls, kerbs, grass banks and potential for more serious outcomes in the event that emergency vehicles are prevented from reaching any incident further along Church Row. The Chairman had emailed Mr Gray asking him for advice on policy is regarding protecting verges from parking. He had replied stating that any posts would not be acceptable in this location. After some discussion it was agreed to set up a meeting between the church, the pub, Mr Hamilton & members of the Parish Council. It was also agreed to ask Mr Gray what Gloucestershire's policy is regarding protecting verges from parking, in particular by the use of wooden posts, given that in other parts of the country the use of posts is considered acceptable.

Housing off Fields Road: Mr Hamilton had emailed his current plans for the housing off Fields Road. It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Mr Hamilton to explain his plans to the Council. The new plan includes for 12 houses which he described as starter homes. He said he had been talking to a housing association about creating a development of shared equity houses which could be partly purchased and partly rented. The plan also shows two plots for self-build. The open market housing shown on the previous scheme has now been removed and Mr Hamilton has said that he would be prepared to enter into an agreement with the

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Parish Council which could prevent building on the site for the foreseeable future. Mr Hamilton explained that he would only press ahead with the plan if he had the support of the village. After some discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council will arrange a public meeting when the proposals can be fully explained. In the meantime it was agreed to make the plans available on the Parish Council website and in the Hill and Valley article.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

Communication between Parish Council and the Public:

a) The Website, Twitter, Facebook, H & V News, Newsletters: It was reported that the group were going to meet again on Thursday.

Neighbourhood Plan:

a) To receive an update from Councillor Morgan on the 27th January meeting and decide how to proceed: Mr Morgan reported on the meeting and stated that the group did not feel able to go forward with the full Neighbourhood Development Plan at present but would like to find more clearly what are the wants and needs of our community by undertaking a survey. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr Fulford and seconded by Mr Broad to ask Mr Morgan to put forward a detailed proposal which included the estimated costs involved to the next meeting, agreed with 5 in favour.

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

- a) Traffic & Parking at St Andrews School: Mr Poulton reported that a "Keep Clear" area had been painted on the road by the school and this concluded the intended markings on the road.
- b) Conservation Verges: Nothing further in the absence of Mr Bell.
- c) Signage for Church: Mr Robertson reported that he had been looking into the price of signs to be attached to existing signposts.
- d) Queen Street & Gallows Lane: Several emails had been exchanged between Mr Gray and Mr Selway which had been copied to the Parish Council. It was reported that much of the clearance work in Gallows Lane had been done by volunteers.
- e) Refilling Grit Bin at Courts Close: Mr Fulford had filled the grit bin and was duly thanked.
- f) Protecting verges around The Manor: Dealt with earlier on the agenda.

Footpaths:

- a) MacMillan Way Footpath Marker at Setts Farm: Nothing further.
- b) Horses Ash Lane: One quote of £240.00 + VAT for the clearance works had been received from Stowell Park. It was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr Fulford to accept the quote and ask for the works to be undertaken by the end of the month, agreed. It was further agreed to ask Mr Gray to contribute towards the cost when the work has been completed.
- c) Footpath Wardens: Nothing further in the absence of Mr Bell.

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- d) Definitive Map Modification Order & Notice - Hills Farm: Noted.
- e) Proposed Diversion of KCH 47 at Greenhill Farm: An email had been received from GCC PROW stating the application to divert the footpath which runs in front of the new Chedworth House in Lower Chedworth has been rejected because ‘legal tests for confirmation would not be met’. An application had been made to extend the temporary closure on this path for a further period. Mike Barton is now dealing with this.

The Playing Field:

- a) Active Together: The 50% deposit had been paid and Fresh Air Fitness had informed us that they hoped to install the equipment shortly and were happy to wait for the remainder of the payment when the second instalment of the grant is received in March.
- b) Proposed Folk Camp Visit 27th to 30th May 2016: Mr Broad declared an interest and left the meeting for this item. Some emails objecting to the visit had been received. After some discussion it was agreed to write to the Village Hall Committee stating that while Councillors did not oppose the request for camping on the playing field they were concerned that they had not been consulted before agreement was reached with the Folk Camp. They felt they had been placed in a very difficult position by the Village Hall Committee agreeing to the booking before they approached the Council. It was requested that in future the Village Hall Committee consult with the Parish Council at an early stage if the Parish Council land is required as part of the booking in order for the Council to consult with neighbours before making a decision. With regard to the visit of the Folk Camp the Council asks that the society should be informed that there should be no amplified music or use of loud hailers on the playing field in order to protect the peace of neighbours. It was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr Morgan to charge £100.00 for the use of the field, agreed.

The Grass Keep Field:

- a) The Diggers Plot: The Chairman had received some comments about the condition of the plot and felt it was necessary to discuss its future in advance if the renewal of the lease in May. After some discussion it was agreed to write to Joanne Leigh stating that Councillors would like to be satisfied that allowing the continued use of the land is in the best interests of the village and would therefore be grateful if she could give a brief outline of how the plot is used, what the benefits are to the Diggers and how many villagers are involved.
- b) Fencing: Mr Robertson declared an interest and left the meeting during discussion on this item. The condition of the fencing on the north eastern boundary of the field had been raised at the budget meeting. The Chairman invited Mr Baker, the Grass Keep field tenant, to comment. Although the fence was in a bad condition it was acceptable for his requirements. It was agreed that Councillor would go and have a look at the condition of the fence before the next meeting.

Improving Telecommunications:

- a) Gigaclear Installation: Mr Robertson gave a brief update.

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d) Improving mobile phone signals without MIP: Mr Fulford stated that there was nothing further to report at the moment as he had had no further feedback from his consultation document.

Defibrillators:

- a) To receive any updates on the VETS scheme: The Clerk reported that the agreement had been sent through and signed, but we were still awaiting confirmation that the system is up and running
- b) The eXbox Defibrillator: Mr See had inspected the eXbox and found that the problem was that a RCD had tripped and he had reset this and it was working again. It was agreed to write and thank Mr See and ask if he could let us know where the RCD is located so that if this problem re-occurs we can fix it ourselves without having to trouble him.

Revision of Standing Orders: Nothing further in the absence of Mr Bell.

Village Litter Pick: Mr Robertson suggested organising another village litter pick. After some discussion it was agreed to arrange it for 16th April. In previous years Mr Broad had arranged for the supply of the necessary equipment from CDC as part of his district council duties. It was agreed to ask Jenny Forde if she is able to organise for this again. It was also agreed to ask footpath wardens and emergency wardens to help with litter pick

Lower End Chapel Graveyard: Mr Fulford had been to look at the graveyard and had circulated an email listing what works he feels are required. After some discussion Mr Fulford, Mr Poulton and Mr Robertson agreed to do some strimming at Lower End Chapel. The Clerk reported that Mr Priest still had the Parish Council owned petrol strimmer. It was also agreed to ask Mr Handy and Mr Musgrave to provide a quotation for work involving the felling and removal of the holly tree, the removal of an overgrown Laurel & the felling of an evergreen near the boundary wall.

Dog Poo Bin: It was agreed that the best place to site a bin would be on the telephone pole on Fields Road just opposite the turning to the road to Calmesden. It was further agreed to ask Jenny Forde to arrange for the delivery of a bin in this location.

Location and Timings of Parish Council meetings in order to support Pre-School:

Mr Broad declared an interest and left the meeting for this item. Mr Fulford reported that clearing the room for Parish Council and other meetings on a Monday evening were causing problems for Pre-school. They would like the room to be left set up until Thursday. Mr Fulford suggested that the Parish Council considers meeting at the School so the room would not have to be cleared on a Monday evening. After some discussion it was felt that more convenient to meet at the Village Hall as the car parking and facilities were better for the Parish Council, but to offer to consider changing the meeting day to a Thursday evening. Mr Fulford would take this offer to Pre-school and the Village Hall Committee.

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Housing off Fields Road: Dealt with earlier on the agenda.

Sale of Bromford House at The Hemplands: A house at The Hemplands owned by Bromford Housing had been put on the open market for sale. Councillor Broad was concerned that there was no requirement on the sale for the purchaser to have a local connection as it was understood that a condition of this type should be imposed on the sale of such properties. Given that Chedworth has a need for lower cost housing to enable young families to stay in the village it was felt that selling such a house on the open market was unhelpful. It was agreed to write to CDC to ask if they could explain what covenants are in place on the former council houses.

Items Arising from Email & Correspondence: Nothing further.

PLANNING:

Applications:

16/00087/TPO Sylvan Place, Fossebridge – Tree Works  
CD 1043/R Ballingers Hill House - Extension - No objection  
CD 3338/1/R Rookery Cottage - Garage - No objection  
16/00267/TCONR 61/62 Ballingers Row - Tree Works  
16/00321/TCONR St Andrews Church - Tree Works

It was felt that not enough consideration was being given to the responses to planning applications. It was agreed to include on the next agenda for further discussion.

FINANCE:

1. Clerks Quarterly Telephone/Broadband Contribution £55.80, prop. M Fulford, sec. C Poulton
2. Thames Water £8.03, prop. M Fulford, sec. I Morgan
3. E Broad (New Toner Cartridge) £10.00, prop. R Jess, sec. M Fulford
4. Viking (Printer Ink) £48.83, prop. R Jess, sec. M Fulford
5. I Robertson (New Website Costs) £80.98, prop. R Jess, sec. M Fulford
6. Community Heartbeat Trust (Set of New Pads) £28.00, prop. M Fulford, sec. C Poulton
7. Fresh Air Fitness (50% Deposit) Retrospective £3993.90, prop. I Morgan, sec. R Jess

OTHER BUSINESS:

Items for Hill and Valley News: Several items were identified to be included in the March edition which the Chairman would write.

Annual Parish Meeting - Monday 21st March 2016: Noted.

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Mr Poulton asked for vegetation encroaching on the roadside on Cooks Hill to be included on the next agenda.

The meeting concluded at 10.07 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at 7.30 pm.

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Date.....